

Abstract

It is disclosed that novel polypeptides which has enhanced expression levels in the synovial tissues of human chronic rheumatoid arthritis (RA) patients compared with the synovial tissues of human osteoarthritis (OA) patients, polynucleotides encoding the polypeptides, vectors comprising the polynucleotides, transformant cells comprising the vectors and an antibody against the polypeptide. It is also disclosed that polynucleotides specifically hybridizing with the polynucleotides and having at least 15 nucleotides, a detection method which is useful for RA diagnosis, and a detection kit which is useful for RA diagnosis.